

ANSWER TO ECKHART REPORT

1C-15-22

Olin Corporation

Ordill, Illinois

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Site listings included various confusing names of dumping areas with vague locations. The list included Drawer L, Drawer G, Ogden Road, Ordill Area 12, Ordill Area D, Area I, Ordill Fire Station, Ordill Water Tower, Energy Lagoon - Drawer G, Energy Burning Pad - Drawer G, and the Incinerator Complex - Drawer G.

The Olin Corporation is made up of several small secluded site facilities which are used for the storage of pyrotechnic materials. The materials while being stored, undergo some deterioration over time, which eventually causes them to be unfit for use. These deteriorated explosives which also may become unstable are eminently dangerous, necessitating their destruction.

Prior to the installation of an incinerator at the site, several small isolated burn areas were utilized for the destruction of the pyrotechnic materials which had become aged. This method was generally accepted as a safe and economic means for the destruction of these materials until such open burning came under the scrutiny of the Division of Air Pollution Control.

The burn areas used by Olin were all listed in the Eckhart Report. The areas listed as the Energy Lagoon and the Incinerator Complex as classified under Drawer G are part of the incinerator system now used for disposal. The site classified under Drawer L is a mistake and should have been included under Drawer G. All other sites listed fell into the open burning areas category.

Each open burn area listed was no larger than one acre and consisted of several shallow pits where separate loads of materials were destroyed. Thermal reduction of the pyrotechnic materials left very little of the material left to remain at the burn areas due to the great combustibility character of the material.



(as per Mr. Alte Kruse). The trace amount of ash which was left was exposed to the elements which allowed for the dispersion of the material into the atmosphere (mostly by wind).

No environmental damage is known to have occurred or to be occurring from these areas. Upon closure of these areas, the pits were filled in with the originally excavated material and are now grassed over.

The incinerator includes a scrubber system which is operated by Olin at the Ordill site under a variance from the Division of Air Pollution Control which includes a settling pond. This lagoon was reviewed in the recently completed Surface Impoundment Assment Program. It was described as having no liner and is approximately 1½ acres in size and 6 feet in depth. Little geologic information is available on the shallow sediments of other areas. However, the data from the Illinois Geological Survey obtained from a boring in the general area of the site indicates the top 18 feet of sediment are composed of sands.

No comprehensive sampling has been done in regards to the water quality in the lagoon. Olin Corporation (as per Mr. Altekruse) does acknowledge the water may contain amounts of metals greater than background waters in the area, due to the scrubber system. Presently, the incinerator and lagoon complex is inoperable until another variance for operation is approved by the PCB and DAPC.

Projected follow-up:

Data is to be obtained regarding the exact locations of burn areas for general information. As soon as the incinerator is put back in operation, samples will be collected from the scrubber effluent and the lagoon sediment.

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Data held presently on the lagoon indicates it will probably require a permit and additional engineering work, such as the placement of a liner. The strategy shall be to work with Olin in obtaining a permit for the lagoon.